

Maryland SHIP "Health Action" Newsletter

December 9, 2013

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Governor Martin O'Malley
Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown
DHMH Secretary Josh Sharfstein

Howard County Opens Its First School-Based Wellness Center



Bollman Bridge Elementary Wellness Center

Howard County recently opened its first school-based wellness center at Bollman Bridge Elementary School. The center is staffed by the Howard County Health Department and includes a full-time pediatric nurse practitioner, a medical office assistant, a licensed social worker, and a part-time pediatrician. Available services include health assessments, immunizations, and physicals for athletic activities.

School-based wellness centers are effective in diagnosing and treating illness as well as managing chronic health conditions. **Research** has shown that school attendance and student achievement increases in schools with wellness centers since students are able to access care in the school setting rather than missing class for off-site doctor's appointments.

Click [here](#) for more information about the Howard County wellness center.

Click [here](#) to see the press release.

Click here to read the research article "[The Relationship Between School-Based Health Centers, Rates of Early Dismissal From School, and Loss of Seat Time.](#)"

[Self-Management Alliance Launches New Website](#)



National Council on Aging

The Self-Management Alliance (SMA), which promotes collaboration among government and nonprofit organizations, recently launched a working forum website dedicated to making self-management an integral part of health. The SMA is committed to advancing goal two of the **HHS Strategic Framework for Multiple Chronic Conditions** to maximize the use of proven self-care by individuals with chronic conditions. The website highlights the importance of self-management and includes featured resources, funding opportunities, and forums to engage users.

Click [here](#) to visit the Self-Management Alliance website.

Click [here](#) to view the HHS Strategic Framework for Multiple Chronic Conditions.

To learn more about the Stanford Chronic Disease Self-Management Program and its implementation in Maryland, contact Sue Vaeth, DHMH Office of Population Health Improvement, at sue.vaeth@maryland.gov.

MHHD Launches Statewide Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards Training Project



Minority Health and
Health Disparities
Maryland Department of Health
and Mental Hygiene

The DHMH Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (MHHD) and the Maryland Hospital Association (MHA) launched a statewide Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards training project. The goals of the project are: (1) to increase the cultural competency of health care delivery organizations through training; (2) to promote the adoption of CLAS Standards; (3) and to improve access to

health services.

MHHD will collaborate with state partners to provide training and promote adoption of the CLAS Standards. The Cultural Competency and Health Literacy Primer developed by MHHD will be used to develop and implement the CLAS Standards training toolkit.

Click [here](#) for more information about Cultural and Linguistic Competency and Health Literacy.

Click [here](#) to download the Cultural Competency and Health

Literacy Primer.

Click [here](#) to view the SHIP health literacy featured topic.

Upcoming Webinar: Cultural Competency - Resources for Providers to Meet Patients' Needs



Join the Maryland Women's Coalition for Health Care Reform on December 13, 2013 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. for the webinar "Cultural Competency: Resources for Providers to Meet Patients' Needs." This is the third webinar in a four part series "Leveraging Health Care Reform: Cultural Competency and Health Literacy Strategies." The webinar will provide an ACA update with a focus on new opportunities, incentives and resources for providers to advance cultural competency and benefit patients. There will also be a discussion of implementation factors impacting cultural competency in practice and in patient settings.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Click [here](#) to view the SHIP health literacy featured topic.

News from the Office of Primary Care Access

December Events with the University of Maryland Shore Regional Health

The University of Maryland Shore Regional Health is hosting health education and screening events throughout the month of December.

Click [here](#) for more information about event dates and times.

Upcoming Events

Rural Maryland Council Executive Board Meeting
January 24, 2014 (12 PM - 2 PM)
PCC West, Miller Senate Building
11 Bladen St, Annapolis, MD 21401

Click [here](#) for more information.

Rural Health Policy Institute
National Rural Health Association
February 4 - 6, 2014
Washington, DC

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.